

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS:

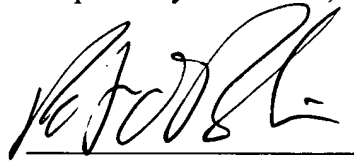
Claims 1-7 and 10-20 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent 6,437,692 by Petite et al.. Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Petite in view of US Patent 6,314,340 by Mecham. Claim 8 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Petite et al. in view of US Patent Publication 2002/0002425 by Dossey. The examiner also objected to claim 4 because it referenced "The system of claim one" instead of "The system of claim 1".

Claim 4 has been amended to correct the above noted informality. Independent claims 1, 7 and 14 have been amended to particularly claim an irrigation controller that encompasses the various elements given in those amended claims. Claim 17 has been amended to specify the use of an irrigation controller as noted above. In each of those claims, as amended, the irrigation controller generally includes a microprocessor having an embedded Web server, at least one relay for controlling a valve in an irrigation system and an Ethernet device for connecting the microprocessor to a LAN. Applicants respectfully submit that the system taught by Petite et al. does not include such an irrigation controller. Rather Petite et al. teaches a general purpose server which has been programmed to communicate through a local gateway and a transceiver with various remote devices which also include transceivers. The applicants' irrigation controller as claimed in the amended claims is particularly adapted for connection with most of the existing, standard irrigation systems such as are typically employed in residential settings. Accordingly, the applicant respectfully submits that the above noted independent claims define subject matter which is novel over that taught by Petite et al..

Appl. No. 10/650,631
Amdt. dated June 8, 2005
Reply to Office action of February 8, 2005

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims, as amended are now in proper form and define allowable subject matter. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case.

Respectfully Submitted,



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6/08/2005
Date